

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0035], as shown below:

The intermediate layer 220 provides an interface between the user interface layer 210 and the CBM adaptation layer 230. The intermediate layer 220 may be implemented using a Java Media Framework (JMF). The JMF is an application program interface (API) that enables audio, video, and other time based media to be added to java applications and applets. The JMF uses the Real-Time Transport Protocol (RTP) (e.g., RFC 3267) for communication between distributed components designed for multimedia communications. The JMF provides an interface between the data protocols of the user interface (and its associated data capture devices) and the CBM infrastructure. The JMF converts the multimedia data stream generated by the user interface layer to data packets in JAVA using the RTP protocol for publishing to the CBM network 120. The JFM also converts RTP protocol packets received as messages ~~from~~ from the CBM adaptation layer 230 into a multimedia data stream that is compatible with the user interface layer 210 and its data capture devices. The JMF provides both “reliable” and “unreliable” communication modes. The reliable mode is used for all multimedia stream management functions. The unreliable mode is used for transmitting the multimedia data packets to the CBM network 120.

Please amend paragraph [0041], as shown below.

The user interface layer 210 also provides user status information to the status/conference management layer 250 as data stream 330. For example, the user interface layer 210 provides the status of an associated user to the status conference management layer 250 indicating whether the user is offline, connected to the CBM network 120 and able to engage in a conference, or is online and engaged in a conference. The status conference management layer 250 publishes the status to the CBM network 120 where it is provided to other subscribing users that list the user as a contact in their contact list. The user status is published to the CBM network 120 (where it is delivered ~~subscribing to~~ to subscribing contact lists).